

RIVERS AND FLOODS

By MONTROSE W. HAYES

Minor floods in Texas were mentioned in the article on "Rivers and Floods" in the October, 1930, REVIEW, but in the text no reference was made to a flood in the first half of October in the Colorado River of Texas. Belated reports indicate the Colorado flood was potentially the most serious in the State, but it passed off without causing any important damage. Bottom lands were flooded, but by taking timely heed of the warnings corn was hauled from the bottomlands, and cattle and hogs were driven to higher ground.

Floods occurred in November in some of the streams of Georgia, Alabama, western Florida, and eastern Louisiana. (See table of flood stages.) They caused no serious damage. The overflow of the Choctawhatchee appears to have been watched with absorbing interest and with gratification by the residents and interests along the stream, as this was the first test of the new Choctawhatchee flood warning system.

In December there were some local overflows in the Savannah River Basin and in eastern Louisiana and Texas, but they were of minor importance.

Table of flood stages in November and December, 1930

River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages —dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
ATLANTIC DRAINAGE					
Savannah: Ellenton, S. C.....	13	{Nov. 15	Nov. 23	17.2	Nov. 20, 21.
Ogeechee: Meldrim, Ga.....	6	{Dec. 8	Dec. 12	16.5	Dec. 10.
Ocmulgee: Abbeville, Ga.....	11	{Nov. 27	Dec. 14	7.6	Dec. 1, 2.
		{Nov. 24	Nov. 25	11.3	Nov. 24, 25.
EAST GULF DRAINAGE					
Apalachicola: Blountstown, Fla.....	20	Nov. 20	Nov. 23	20.9	Nov. 22.
Flint: Albany, Ga.....	20	Nov. 21	Nov. 21	20.1	Nov. 21.
Chattahoochee:					
Columbus, Ga.....	20	Nov. 17	Nov. 17	25.2	Nov. 17.
Alaga, Ala.....	30	Nov. 18	Nov. 20	34.9	Nov. 19.
Choctawhatchee: Caryville, Fla.....	12	Nov. 17	Nov. 24	13.2	Nov. 19, 20.
Black Warrior: Tuscaloosa, Ala.....	46	{do.	Nov. 18	49.5	Nov. 17.
West Pearl: Pearl River, La.....	13	{Nov. 20	Nov. 24	14.1	Nov. 22.
		{Dec. 6	Dec. 14	14.6	Dec. 11.
MISSISSIPPI DRAINAGE					
Sulphur: Ringo Crossing, Tex.....	20	{Dec. 1	Dec. 1	20.5	Dec. 1.
		{Dec. 5	Dec. 8	23.3	Dec. 6.
WEST GULF DRAINAGE					
Trinity:					
Dallas, Tex.....	28	{Dec. 1	Dec. 1	29.6	Dec. 1.
Trinidad, Tex.....	28	{Dec. 5	Dec. 9	33.6	Dec. 6.
Liberty, Tex.....	25	{Dec. 9	Dec. 11	28.8	Dec. 10.
		{Dec. 8	do.	25.1	Dec. 9, 10.

WEATHER OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

By F. A. YOUNG

December is normally one of the stormiest months of the year over the North Atlantic, and the conditions during the current month could not be called unusual over the greater part of the ocean, although up to time of writing, nearly 100 vessels have rendered storm reports. Along the American coast between the thirty-fifth and fortieth parallels, the number of days with gales was somewhat above the normal; over the middle section of the steamer lanes, about normal, and over the eastern section, somewhat below.

The positive pressure departure at Horta, and the negative departures at stations on the British Isles, as shown on Table 1, indicate that both the North Atlantic HIGH and Icelandic LOW were well developed, although judging from vessel reports, the conditions over the area between these two centers of action were not abnormal.

The month was unusually free from fog over the Grand Banks, where it was reported on only 4 days, in place of the usual 10 to 15 days. Fog occurred on 3 days off the American coast, between the thirty-fifth and fortieth parallels; from 2 to 5 days over the steamer lanes, east of the thirtieth meridian; on 1 day in the eastern section of the Gulf of Mexico; the middle section of the steamer lanes was practically clear.

TABLE 1.—Averages, departures, and extremes of atmospheric pressure at sea level, 8 a. m. (seventy-fifth meridian). North Atlantic Ocean, December, 1930.

Stations	Average Pressure	Departure	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
	Inches	(¹) Inch	Inches		Inches	
Julianehaab, Greenland	29.47		30.12	21st	28.86	3d.
Belle Isle, Newfoundland	29.74	+0.04	30.54	5th	28.92	14th.
Halifax, Nova Scotia	29.95	+0.00	30.72	3d	29.30	9th.
Nantucket	29.99	+0.03	30.66	3d	29.48	27th.
Hatteras	30.06	+0.06	30.60	25th	29.68	27th.
Key West	30.07	+0.02	30.32	24th	29.88	22d.
New Orleans	30.17	+0.02	30.38	24th	29.82	5th.
Cape Gracias, Nicaragua	29.92	+0.06	29.98	10th ¹	29.80	22d.
Turks Island	30.05	+0.02	30.24	31st	29.88	5th.
Bermuda	30.00	+0.12	30.46	26th	29.64	8th.
Horta, Azores	30.36	+0.25	30.52	2d	30.06	31st.
Lerwick, Shetland Islands	29.66	+0.06	30.36	22d	28.94	13th.
Valencia, Ireland	29.85	+0.09	30.64	21st	28.84	30th.
London	29.87	+0.15	30.59	19th	28.86	31st.

¹ No normal available.² From normals shown on Hydrographic Office Pilot Charts, based on observations at Greenwich mean noon, or 7 a. m., seventy-fifth meridian time.³ From normals based on 8 a. m. observations.⁴ And on other dates.

On the 1st there was a stiff norther in the Gulf of Mexico—with barometric readings well over 30.30 inches on the coast of Texas—that was responsible for the wreck of the Mexican S. S. *San Francisco*, the passengers and crew being rescued by the Italian S. S. *Sangro*, Captain Staulese.

On the same day there was a low over Labrador and gales prevailed between the fortieth and fiftieth parallels,